OUTGOING MESSAGE

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TO: IMMEDIATE WHITE HOUSEZZGZUATION ROOM FOR MR FAZIO, ZEAR STATE RCI//OPERATIONS CENTER FOR MR FRY, NMCCBE//ATTENTION CIA 25X1A9a

REP, TREASURY DEPT//INFO

WARNING NOTICE SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS

INVOLVED

TEM NO: 2 DATE: 30 MAY 74

SUBJECT: PEKING REASSERTS CLAIM TO SOVIET-HELD ISLAND

REF : FBIS 85, 30 MAY 74, UNCLAS

THE REAFFIRMATION OF CHINA'S POSITION CAME IN A BRIEF BUT
BITING STATEMENT ISSUED BY A FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN. IT WAS
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IN RESPONSE TO A SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT PUBLISHED A WEEK AGO.

THE CHINESE REPLY MADE NO MENTION OF PLANS TO SEND BOATS THROUGH
THE DISPUTED CHANNEL. AS IN THE PAST, HOWEVER, PEKING IS UNLIKELY
TO FORCE PASSAGE. THE TARDINESS AND LOW LEVEL OF CHINA'S RESPONSE
SUGGEST THAT PEKING WISHES TO KEEP THE DISPUTE IN LOW KEY. EE IMPDET.

ESPECIAL DISTERIBUTION: EAP DIV, E EUR DIV, NIÓ
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PATE: 30 MAY 74

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